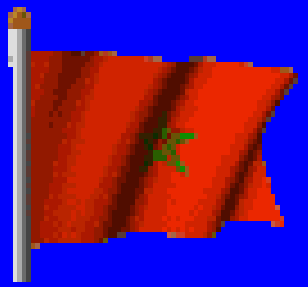
TRAVELER'S BRIEFING



MOROCCO

al Mamlakah al Maghribiyah

Ksar el K
Tétouan
Oran
Ech Cheliff
35°
Rabat
Oujda
Fès
Casablanca
Funchal
Khenifra
Safi
Beni Mellal
ATLANTIC OCEAN
Marrakech
El Golea
30°
Agadir
Zagora
Prime Meridian
Sidi Ifni
Santa Cruz de Tenerife
ALGERIA
In-Salah
SPAIN
MOROCCO
25°
25°
Western
S A H A R A
Sahara
Tropic of Cancer
(disputed)
Fdérik
MAURITANIA
20°
MALI
Tessalit
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BACKGROUND

Full Name: Kingdom of Morocco

Capital: Rabat

Population: 29,661,636 (est)

Type of government: Constitutional Mo

Head of government: PM Abderrahmane YOUSSOUFI

Official language(s) Arabic, Berber, Fre

Economy: state-directed, moderately capitalist

Religions: Islam (98.7%)

TRAVEL

Travel restrictions: For travel to Southern Morocco (south of Agadir), personnel are requested to check with USDAO Rabat for Special Restrictions

International Airport: Rabat and Casablanca

Flights from Frankfurt: Royal Air Morocco

Other methods of arrival: Ship/Road/Rail

U.S. Embassy address: 2 Avenue de Marrakech, Rabat
Tel: 212-7-762-265 ext 2121 thru 2124 FAX: 212-7-765-661

Transportation: Public transportation: Good.

Urban Roads/Maintenance: Good.

Rural roads/Maintenance: Good.

Availability of roadside assistance: Good.

ENTRY/EXIT

Travel Necessities: Passports are required for all travelers. For official travel, no-fee passports are required for military personnel (includes crew), DoD and non-DoD civilians, and dependents.Military personnel on leave require passports and may remain for up to three months without a visa. Passports must be valid for at least 6 months. Identification cards and orders are required. Military personnel on leave do not require clearance or advance notice, but do require identification credentials. Border officials must stamp passport upon entrance to Morocco, particularly at minor entrance points. Holders of unstamped passports are subject Customs, immigration, and quarantine inspection is required.

Duty-free entry for personal effects: clothing and belongings, typewriter, camera, reasonable amount of tobacco, etc. Amounts over personal needs may be dutiable. Possession of a personal computer will be annotated in passport upon entry

HELPFUL HINTS

Special restrictions: Modern tourist facilities and means of transportation are widely available, but may vary in quality depending on price and location. The workweek in Morocco is Monday through Friday. Request lodging well in advance. Declare personal firearms on entry; immediate registration is required. Do not photograph or enter mosques. Use cameras with discretion. No photographs should be taken on or near airport or of military installations or buildings. Photographs of Moroccans should be taken only with permission. The government of Morocco considers all children born to Moroccan fathers to be Moroccan citizens. Even if the children bear American passports, immigration officials may require proof that the father approves their departure before the children will be allowed to leave Morocco. Although women are normally granted custody of their children in divorces, regardless of nationality, the children's departure

Amembassy hours are Mon-Fri, 0830L-1730L (Zulu year round). Amembassy observes local holidays periodically

MONEY

Currency restrictions: Declare all currency. Currency may be checked on leaving. Travelers checks and credit cards are accepted at some establishments in Morocco, mainly in urban areas. Travelers checks may be cashed at most banks, although some require the bearer to present both the check and receipt. ATM machines are available in Casablanca and Rabat, and some American bank cards may be used to withdraw local currency for an account in the US.

Rate: Approximate: 10 Moroccan Dirham for $1.

HEALTH

Major threats: diarrhea, respiratory diseases, accidents, arthropod-borne diseases, STDs, cold injuries, heat injuries and high elevation.

Availability of medical services: Adequate medical care is readily available.

Medical Insurance: May not apply in Morocco. Check with your policy advisor to see if you are covered or will be reimbursed

Status of hospitals: Good

Health Precautions: None

Immunizations: Hep A (recommended), Hep B, MMR, typhoid,

FORCE PROTECTION

Country Clearance is needed for high-ranking officers traveling to Morocco. You obtain this by going through your S3/G3 section. This must be done at least 30 days ahead of scheduled visit. DV visits will also be coordinated through Briefings: AT/FP level I brief from command's Level II trainer

Drinking water and ice cubes are considered safe in major cities, however, as a precaution, bottled water which can be purchased locally is recommended. Milk and other dairy products from "Laiterie" in Casablanca are safe. Wash or peel fruits and vegetables before eating raw. In rural areas, eat at recommended places. Amembassy recommends insecticides, antimalarial drugs, gamma globulin inoculation, and precautions against water-borne diseases. The sparsely-settled Western Sahara (formerly Spanish Sahara) was long the site of armed conflict between Government forces and the Polisario Front which has demanded independence. A cease-fire has been in effect since 1991 in the UN administered area. There are thousands of unexploded mines in the Western

CRIME

Criminal Activities: Morocco has a moderately high crime rate in urban areas. Criminals have targeted tourists for assaults, muggings, thefts, pickpocketing, and scams of all types. Commonly reported crimes include falsifying credit-card vouchers, and shipping inferior rugs as a substitute for the rugs purchased by the traveler. The U.S. Embassy and Consulate have also received reports of thefts occurring in the vicinity of ATM machines. Some travelers have been befriended by persons of various nationalities who have offered them food, drink, or cigarettes which are drugged. Harassment of tourists by unemployed Moroccans posing as "guides" is a common problem. Prudent travelers hire only official tour guides through hotels and travel agencies. Traveling alone in the Rif Mountain area is risky, as tourists have fallen victim to schemes involving the purchase and/or

Morocco is strict on: Drugs.

Morocco may experience verbal abuse. Thieves sometimes bump cars from behind and rob their victims when they get

WEATHER

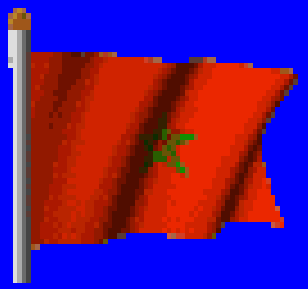
http://cnn.com/WEATHER/html

Http://www.weatherunderground.com/

CLOTHING

Uniform restrictions: Civilian clothing is mandatory unless visiting Moroccan Government officials. Summer clothing is recommended Mar-Nov and woolen clothing is comfortable Dec-Feb. Raincoats are needed for winter months.

This concludes the TRAVELER'S BRIEFING for



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